

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ORDER OF WORSHIP
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2020

CALL TO WORSHIP **Ephesians 4:1-6**

Leader: Walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called.

People: With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Leader: There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call.

All: One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

HYMN OF PRAISE **O Worship the King**

1. O worship the King, all glorious above,
And gratefully sing His power and His love.
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

2. O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, Whose canopy space;
Whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

3. Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

4. Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail.
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end;
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer and Friend.

*Words by Robert Grant; Music by Johann Haydn
Based on Psalm 104 ©Public Domain*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN OF CONFESSION **Jesus Cast a Look on Me**

1. Jesus cast a look on me
Give me sweet simplicity
Make me poor and keep me low
Seeking only Thee to know

2. All that feeds my busy pride
Cast it evermore aside
Bid my will to Thine submit
Lay me humbly at Thy feet

3. Make me like a little child
Of my strength and wisdom spoiled
Seeing only in thy light
Walking only in Thy might

4. Leaning on Thy loving breast
Where a weary soul can rest
Feeling well the peace of God
Flowing from His precious blood

5. In this posture let me live
And hosannas daily give
In this temper let me die
And hosannas ever cry

In this temper let me die
And hosannas ever cry

*Authors: John Berridge / Matthew Perryman Jones
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CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty God, your word is clear, a lamp for our feet and a light to our path. But we do not want to hear, and would rather choose our own way. All Scripture is profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness. And yet instead, we readily give ear to teachers who suit our own passions. Rather than endure sound teaching, we quickly wander off into myths, and would rather be affirmed in our own convictions than challenged anew by your truth. Renew our hearts, we pray, that we might respond to your word, and be made wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON **Ezekiel 36:26-27**

²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my just decrees.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE **Thy Mercy My God**

1. Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue;
Thy free grace, alone, from the first to the last,
Hath won my affections and bound my soul fast.

2. Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair,
But through Thy free goodness my spirits revive
And He that first made me still keeps me alive.

3. Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground
And weep for the praise of the mercy I've found.

4. Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son;
All praise to the Spirit, whose whisper, divine,
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine.
All praise to the Spirit, whose whisper, divine,
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine.

*Author: Isaac Watts, John Stocker, Sandra McCracken
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MISSIONS MINUTE

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

SCRIPTURE READING Nehemiah 12:27-47

²⁷ And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought the Levites in all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem to celebrate the dedication with gladness, with thanksgivings and with singing, with cymbals, harps, and lyres. ²⁸ And the sons of the singers gathered together from the district surrounding Jerusalem and from the villages of the Netophathites; ²⁹ also from Beth-gilgal and from the region of Geba and Azmaveth, for the singers had built for themselves villages around Jerusalem. ³⁰ And the priests and the Levites purified themselves, and they purified the people and the gates and the wall.

³¹ Then I brought the leaders of Judah up onto the wall and appointed two great choirs that gave thanks. One went to the south on the wall to the Dung Gate. ³² And after them went Hoshaiiah and half of the leaders of Judah, ³³ and Azariah, Ezra, Meshullam, ³⁴ Judah, Benjamin, Shemaiah, and Jeremiah, ³⁵ and certain of the priests' sons with trumpets: Zechariah the son of Jonathan, son of Shemaiah, son of Mattaniah, son of Micaiah, son of Zaccur, son of Asaph; ³⁶ and his relatives, Shemaiah, Azarel, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethanel, Judah, and Hanani, with the musical instruments of David the man of God. And Ezra the scribe went before them. ³⁷ At the Fountain Gate they went up straight before them by the stairs of the city of David, at the ascent of the wall, above the house of David, to the Water Gate on the east.

³⁸ The other choir of those who gave thanks went to the north, and I followed them with half of the people, on the wall, above the Tower of the Ovens, to the Broad Wall, ³⁹ and above the Gate of Ephraim, and by the Gate of Yeshanah, and by the Fish Gate and the Tower of Hananel and the Tower of the Hundred, to the Sheep Gate; and they came to a halt at the Gate of the Guard. ⁴⁰ So both choirs of those who gave thanks stood in the house of God, and I and half of the officials with me; ⁴¹ and the priests Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Micaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah, and Hananiah, with trumpets; ⁴² and Maaseiah, Shemaiah, Eleazar, Uzzi, Jehohanan, Malchijah, Elam, and Ezer. And the singers sang with Jezrahiah as their leader. ⁴³ And they offered great sacrifices that day and rejoiced, for God had made them rejoice with great joy; the women and children also rejoiced. And the joy of Jerusalem was heard far away.

⁴⁴ On that day men were appointed over the storerooms, the contributions, the firstfruits, and the tithes, to gather into them the portions required by the Law for the priests and for the Levites according to the fields of the towns, for Judah rejoiced over the priests and the Levites who ministered. ⁴⁵ And they performed the service of their God and the service of purification, as did the singers and the gatekeepers, according to the command of David and his son Solomon. ⁴⁶ For long ago in the days of David and Asaph there were directors of the singers, and there were songs of praise and thanksgiving to God. ⁴⁷ And all Israel in the days of Zerubbabel and in the days of Nehemiah gave the daily portions for the singers and the gatekeepers; and they set apart that which was for the Levites; and the Levites set apart that which was for the sons of Aaron.

SERMON **“Devoted Worship”**
- Rev. Rich Brown

HYMN OF RESPONSE O Give Thanks (Psalm 107)

1. We were wand'ring in the desert with our souls so starved and weak
We were hungry for a homeland we did not know how to seek
But we lifted up our voices to the only One who hears
And the God of mercy came and brought us near.

2. We were locked out of the garden, and our backs bent down with pain.
In the shadow of death's darkness we were slaves to sin and blame.
And we cried out in our labor to the only one who hears
And the God of mercy wiped away our tears.

Chorus

Oh give thanks to the LORD for His love endures forever!
We were wandering and lost, and our Father brought us home
To a safe dwelling place, to a feast of joy and laughter.
Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!

3. We were fools in our rebellion, with our hunger strike of pride
We were sick and growing closer to the death we should have died
Then He heard of our condition, and He called us by our names
And the God of glory took a-way our shame!

Chorus

4. We were far out on the ocean, making wealth and chasing dreams
But the waves of great destruction brought us tremb'ling to our knees
Then we cried like drunken sailors to the only one who hears
And the God of comfort took away our tears.

Chorus 2X

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!

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BENEDICTION

DISMISSAL

Minister: Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and
Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: THANKS BE TO GOD!

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

POSTLUDE

Mercy
Presbyterian Church

*“Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
Once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.”*

I Peter 2:10

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